

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method of optically imaging subsurface anatomic structures and biomolecules in an individual or animal ~~with red light and infrared radiant energy~~, comprising ~~the steps of~~:

illuminating a region of interest with light having a wavelength from the red to radiant infrared ~~portion~~ region of the light spectrum via a light source; ~~and~~

detecting red and infrared light from said region of interest with a red and infrared light sensitive image detector;

enhancing said detected image via pulsatile enhanced imaging, confocal enhanced imaging, Raman enhanced imaging, laser speckle enhanced imaging, multiphoton interaction enhanced imaging, optical coherence tomography enhanced imaging, time correlated single photon counting enhanced imaging, optical rotary dispersion image, circular dichroism imaging or polarization enhanced imaging;

transmitting said enhanced image to a video monitor external to said image detector; and

displaying said enhanced image on the video monitor thereby optically imaging subsurface anatomic structures and biomolecules.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein said ~~region is illuminated with light energy having~~ wavelength[[s]] ~~ranging from~~ is about 600 nm to about 1100 nm.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein said ~~infrared sensitive image detector detects~~ detected red and infrared light ~~selected from the group consisting of~~ is transmitted light, reflected light, absorbed light, or ~~and~~ emitted light.

Claims 4-5 (canceled).

Claim 6 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising:
~~the step of adding an exogenous chromophore to the region of interest.~~

Claim 7 (currently amended): The method of claim 6, wherein said chromophore is ~~selected from the group consisting of~~ indocyanine Green (ICG) or ~~and~~ d-aminolevulinic acid

Claim 8 (canceled).

Claim 9 (currently amended): The device of claim 1 ~~[[8]]~~, wherein said light ~~is provided by a source selected from the group consisting of~~ is a light-emitting diode~~[[s]]~~ (LED~~[[s]]~~) filtered with a bandpass filter, a diode laser~~[[s]]~~ ~~and~~ or filtered broadband illumination.

Claim 10 (currently amended): The device of claim 1 ~~[[8]]~~, wherein said image detector is ~~selected from the group consisting of~~ a charge-coupled device (CCD) and or a CCD video camera.

Claims 11-31 (canceled).